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Request for the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda of the seventy-second session

Complete withdrawal of foreign military forces from the territory of the Republic of Moldova

Letter dated 11 August 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to request, upon instructions received from my Government, and in accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the seventy-second session of the Assembly of a supplementary item entitled "Complete withdrawal of foreign military forces from the territory of the Republic of Moldova".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, an explanatory memorandum concerning the request is attached to the present letter (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Victor **Moraru**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova

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Annex

Explanatory memorandum

After regaining its independence, the Republic of Moldova was admitted to membership in the United Nations in 1992, during the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, as a sovereign and independent State.

Twenty-five years later, foreign military forces remain stationed on the territory of the Republic of Moldova without its consent. The Republic of Moldova considers the presence of these foreign military forces to be a threat to the maintenance of international peace and security. The Government of the Republic of Moldova requests, in accordance with Article 11 of the Charter of the United Nations, that the matter of the complete withdrawal of these foreign military forces from its territory be included as a separate item in the agenda of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly.

No State must be allowed to hinder the application of the principle of international law to the effect that military forces may not be stationed on the territory of another State without its consent.

The Government of the Republic of Moldova has attempted to secure the complete withdrawal of the foreign military forces on its territory through regional efforts. In Istanbul, in November 1999, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) made the following declaration:

> "Recalling the decisions of the Budapest and Lisbon Summits and Oslo Ministerial Meeting, we reiterate our expectation of an early, orderly and complete withdrawal of Russian troops from Moldova. In this context, we welcome the recent progress achieved in the removal and destruction of the Russian military equipment stockpiled in the Trans-Dniestrian region of Moldova and the completion of the destruction of non-transportable ammunition. We welcome the commitment by the Russian Federation to complete withdrawal of the Russian forces from the territory of Moldova by the end of 2002. We also welcome the willingness of the Republic of Moldova and of the OSCE to facilitate this process, within their respective abilities, by the agreed deadline".

Since the 1999 OSCE Istanbul Summit declaration, the Government of the Republic of Moldova has continued efforts, in various formats, on the subject of the complete withdrawal of the foreign military forces from its territory. To date, these efforts have been largely unsuccessful.

The Government of the Republic of Moldova, concerned with the threat to international peace and security arising from the presence of foreign troops on its territory and mindful that the United Nations has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of peace and security, requests the support of the United Nations for efforts to conclude, without further delay, the process of unconditional, orderly and complete withdrawal of foreign military forces from its national territory.

The inclusion of this matter in the agenda of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly would constitute a highly needed application of preventive diplomacy in a region where the maintenance of international peace and security may be threatened.

The Government of the Republic of Moldova suggests that the agenda item entitled "Complete withdrawal of foreign military forces from the territory of the Republic of Moldova" be referred to the plenary of the General Assembly.